

TIGEE

COIFFURE & ESTHÉTIQUE



Just down the street
2001 University • McGill Metro
843-4104

RECEIVE A FREE TRAVELLER'S KIT OF PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS WITH YOUR APPOINTMENT AND PRESENTATION OF THIS AD AND STUDENT ID.

REDKEN
5TH AVENUE NYC

A CHALLENGE FOR ISRAELI IMMIGRATION:

The Case of (non-Jewish) Temporary and Illegal Workers

seminar presentation by Professor Allan Borowski
Dept. of Social Work, University of New South Wales, Australia

DATE: Wednesday, October 9

TIME: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

PLACE: Leacock 738

Graduate Students: Worried about Tuition?

■ The University of Alberta in Edmonton is the only university in Canada to offer tuition scholarships. When combined with a stipend, your tuition scholarship provides secure funding for a defined enrollment period.

■ Tuition scholarships can be used in conjunction with other forms of financial assistance.

■ Choose a graduate program from more than 190 areas of research in 61 departments at one of Canada's largest research universities.

Contact Dr. Murray Gray, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, University of Alberta in Edmonton at:

Phone: 1-800-758-7136 or (403) 492-3499

Toll free fax: 1-800-803-4132

E-mail: grad.mail@ualberta.ca

WWW: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~graduate/graduate.html>

Faculty of Graduate Studies
and Research
2-8 University Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Canada T6G 2J9



University
of
Alberta

COMFORT EXPRESS

Ride First Class in Alternative Travel
Brand new 1996 vehicles only
Guaranteed Comfort!!

Toronto One Way \$35 Return \$60
Departure: Thu, Fri, Sun 9:30a.m.

Quebec City & Ottawa
One Way \$20 Return \$35
Departure: Wed, Sat 9:00a.m. Return: 6:00p.m.

*Also available: Group day tours
to the Laurentians and Mt. Tremblant*

Montreal 525-1384
Outside 1-888-525-1384

Board of
Directors
of the
Daily
Publications
Society

MEETING

Tuesday,
October 8,
1996

4:00 pm
rm. 435
Shatner
Building

Board
members
only.

**MCGILL DAILY
ADVERTISING**
398-6790

**MCGILL DAILY
ADVERTISING**
398-6790

Bargains.

As a McGill student or staff member, you're entitled to incredible educational discounts on a wide variety of products at the McGill Computer Store. These are passed along to our customers direct from the manufacturer, and as a result our prices are often much lower than you'd find anywhere else. For more information give us a call at 398-5025, or come and visit us in Room 112

of Burnside Hall. You can also
find us on the World Wide Web
at <http://www.mcgill.ca/mcs>.

MCS
McGill Computer Store

PITCHER NITE \$5.99 EVERY FRIDAY 9-11PM
15¢ WINGS WEDNESDAYS 8PM TO MIDNIGHT

Clydes
Bar & Restaurant
PRESENTS

Saturday, Oct. 12th.

TEN, PEARL JAM TRIBUTE

Saturday, Oct. 19th.

ROAD APPLES,
TRAGICALLY HIP TRIBUTE

Wednesday, Oct. 23rd.

SPIRIT OF THE WEST

286 LAKESHORE ROAD
POINTE CLAIRE VILLAGE 630-8118

**BAR
LA CERVROISE**
BIÈRES ARTISANALES

• MONTREAL'S #1 BREWPUB
FOR FRESHNESS, QUALITY
AND SELECTION

• COME EDUCATE YOUR
PALATE WITH OUR
HANDCRAFTED BEERS

• A NEW SPECIALTY BEER
EACH WEEK

• ONE BUCK BEER!
WEEKDAYS FROM 3-6 PM

4457 BOULEVARD ST-LAURENT,
MONTREAL (514) 843-6586

Karaoke 卡拉 OK

LETYCOON

福星
廊

小食供應 96 Sherbrooke W.
Montreal, Quebec
國、粵、英、日碟都有 Tel: 849-8094 Fax: 849-7476

Don't be hostage to Long Distance deals!

GET STRAIGHT THROUGH TO SAVINGS, JUST DIAL

10215

BEFORE YOUR LONG DISTANCE NUMBERS.

FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE CALL:
(514) 933-7770

(FOR CANADA, USA, CARIBBEAN DIAL: 10215 + 1 + AREA CODE + NUMBER)
(FOR OVERSEAS DIAL: 10215 + 011 + COUNTRY/CITY CODE + NUMBER)

DISCOUNTS UP TO 40%/ NO SIGNING UP OR CHANGING COMPANIES/ ALL DAY SAVINGS

Pronto
The 10215 way to save

IGNORANCE STILL REIGNS AT THE RED CROSS

Yesterday morning, the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) packed up their blood donation apparatus and left, canceling the second half of SSMU's annual blood drive. In its half-assed attempt to explain its actions, the CRC faxed a press release stating that they decided to cancel the blood drive to protect the safety of the blood supply because "certain students, who identified themselves as homosexual, in disagreement with the health questionnaire, wanted to donate blood at the McGill Blood Drive."

This press release only em-

phasizes the fact that the CRC is still working from the pernicious and stigmatising misconception that 'high risk groups' exist as opposed to high risk activities. This propagates the dangerous notion that heterosexuals are somehow invulnerable to the HIV virus and to AIDS and that certain other 'groups' are rift with disease.

This is both dangerous and destructive, not only because it is coming from an organisation that states that it wants to put the safety of the blood supply first, but because it comes from an organisation that is generally believed to be a disseminator of 'truth'. The basis of this 'truth' is quite apparently skewed.

For the benefit of certain CRC representatives and others who comprise the 'misinformed category', we thought it best to clarify the facts. While the queer male community is reportedly the most aware concerning safer sex issues, and its practice, it is heterosexual women who currently comprise the group which has the fastest growing numbers of HIV infection. Clearly, it is not 'who you do', but rather 'how

you do it'. This is obviously a concept that is hard to grasp, especially for certain CRC representatives.

In a phone call received Tuesday night by an SSMU representative, an employee of the Red Cross asserted that they were canceling because Chris Carter and his 'high risk friends' were going to come to the blood drive, lie on the questionnaire and 'taint' the blood supply.

Even more disturbing is the queer witchhunt that ensued on campus yesterday with the untimely departure of the Red Cross. Due to the dissatisfaction of many, Chris Carter was scapegoated for their early cancellation. The fact that the CRC tucked its tail between its legs and ran when Chris Carter, President of the Student Society Of McGill, sent press releases to invite reporters to watch while he attempted to give blood and get rejected seems to indicate that the Red Cross was not 'up to' this sort of publicised scrutiny. While many rumors were adrift to the effect that Carter had the specific intent of closing

down the blood drive, his true motivation was to stimulate awareness and debate concerning the questionnaire.

It was made glaringly obvious through the CRC's actions that it did not want to have an open discussion about the questionnaire and its problems, but preferred, through their homophobic treatment of Carter as 'liar' and 'diseased' to avoid any meaningful dialogue that could have proved to be a vehicle of progress.

As it stands, the Red Cross questionnaire insinuates that certain people are at risk of contracting HIV while others are immune, contingent upon 'group association', despite the fact that this is clearly a detrimental message for society as a whole, especially women.

Furthermore, it is suspect when an organisation that purports to be humanitarian and neutral, stigmatises a whole group without the ability to defend their position. Seemingly, their only recourse was to flee the McGill campus.

The truth is, people, and not just queer people, took a stand

against the Red Cross and questioned their authority and justification. Instead of participating in meaningful dialogue and improvements in their questionnaire, they left campus with only a scathing press release and less than half of the expected donations.

It is time for change. It is time for people to realize that everyone is at risk. It is time the Red Cross took responsibility for past mishandling of the blood supply. It is time everyone realizes that it is practices that hold the true danger.

If anyone has earned the name 'tainted' throughout this entire ordeal, we are certain that it was not the group of concerned individuals that sought to maintain the reliability of a world famous 'humanitarian' organisation, but rather those who work within the CRC.

Tainted blood, not tainted people.

Comment by Meredith Cohen, Samantha Murphy, Mark Narron, Andrea Mason, Vlad Nabok and Sonia Verma

The McGill Daily

vol 86 • no 12

Editorial Offices:

3480 McTavish St., Montréal, Qc.,
room B-03, H3A 1X9

Business & Advertising Office:

3480 McTavish St., Montréal, Qc.,
room B-07, H3A 1X9

editorial: (514) 398-6784

business/advertising: (514) 398-6790

fax: (514) 398-8318

business manager: Marian Schrier
assistant business manager:

Jo-Anne Pickle

advertising managers:

Boris Shedov, Letty Matteo

advertising layout & design:

Mark Brooker

cover by:

Tim van Wijk

contributors:

David Dixter, Melanie Fearon, Derek Fung, Simona Gheoghu, M. Engelbert Griffin, Sraddha Goyal, Rob Hancock, Lala Kouyoumdjian, Julien Lapointe, Trevor Lloyd, Brian Love, Jay McCoy, Vlad Nabok, Heather Ross, Mariko Tamaki, Noémie Tousignant, Tim van Wijk

Co-ordinating Editor: Idella Sturino

Co-ordinating News Editor: Anup Grewal

Co-ordinating Culture Editor: Kevin Star

News Editors: Andrea Mason, Zachary Schwartz

Culture Editors: Meredith Cohen, Mike Cullen

Features Editor: Sonia Verma

National Affairs Editor: —

Layout & Design Co-ordinators: Samantha

Murphy, Nelami Stuart

Daily Français: Marc-Antoine Godin

Emmanuelle Latraverse

Photo Editors: David Ryther, Lucy Atkinson

Office Co-ordinator: Andrea Cooke

Project Co-ordinator: Mark Narron

Information Editor: —

All contents ©1996 Daily Publications Society. All rights reserved. The content of this newspaper is the responsibility of the McGill Daily and does not necessarily represent the views of McGill University or the Students' Society of McGill University. Products or companies advertised in this newspaper are not necessarily endorsed by the Daily staff. Printed by Payette & Simms, Montréal, Québec.

The Daily is a founding member of Canadian University Press and Presse Étudiante du Québec.

Printed on 20% recycled paper.
ISSN 1192-4608

Erratum

The article entitled "Words, Words, Words..." in the Sept. 26 issue of *The McGill Daily Culture* failed to include Flux Magazine's website address: <http://www.total.net/~tenchi/flux/>. The *Daily* regrets the error.

Letters

Should we be civilised?

To the Daily,

According to the Sept. 26 Daily (CUP) article, "Happy Birthday McGill, Now Can We Talk," Principal Bernard Shapiro said, in response to the demonstration for accessible high quality education, "It is easy to be barbaric, but much more difficult to be civilised."

I would like to reflect for a moment on the civilised/barbaric dichotomy. Historically, this dichotomy has been used to justify the most horrendous of evils. Under this dichotomy, aboriginal peoples have been "civilised": their lands and cultural structures (art, religion, language) have been taken from them and destroyed (or catalogued for "civilised" viewing and study). Under this dichotomy, slave trade (and now free trade) has been justified. Under this dichotomy, capitalism continues to function, because it always requires "less civilised"

people to exploit, and because it requires the glorification of a certain "civilised" lifestyle (for marketing purposes). And under this dichotomy innumerable genocides have been carried out.

So should McGill students rush out and try to be civilised? I hope not. I would like to see students at McGill learning to resist civilisation, rather than becoming its chief agents. This may mean taking part in non-violent resistance, participating in "civil" disobedience, engaging in liberation theologies, and speaking out against oppression in any form. If this is what is meant by barbaric, then I welcome the title. Principal Shapiro ought not be deceived, this is not an easy calling.

Erin Runions
PhD 4, Faculty of Religious Studies

Sexuality not an idea

To the Daily,

I would like to address a misquote in the Sept. 26 issue of the *Daily Culture*. In the article about *Flux Magazine* ("Words, words, words...") I was quoted as saying "It's a socially progressive thing to be queer." I would never make such a statement. To suggest that my being queer is an "idea" is to undermine and devalue who I am. If I subscribe to certain queer ideologies it is because I am queer — not because I think it's hip or "progressive" to do so.

Flux Magazine, as a queer literary and artistic publication, is indeed a progressive idea — at McGill anyway.

But sexuality, as it applies to individuals, cannot be spoken of in these same terms.

Rob Sheldon

A note from below

We want you, we need you.....to come to our bi-weekly Friday Culture shindigs (meetings). We'll see 'ya this Friday at 16h in the Daily Office!

Hyde Park

Raymond Villeneuve won't get many points for originality in choosing to attack the Québec Jewish community as he did last week in his ultra hard-line separatist group's newsletter. He certainly is not the first to try to scapegoat the Jewish people. Villeneuve — leader of the Mouvement de Libération Nationale de Québec (MNLQ) — warned among other things in the newsletter, that Jews could face "confrontations" in Québec if they continued to vote overwhelmingly to stay in Canada. As a former FLQ terrorist who received 12 years on a manslaughter charge for having planted a bomb that killed a security guard, Villeneuve qualifies as a certifiable nutcase.

So why is the press giving this guy so much attention, and why should we take anything he has

to say seriously? Why is the Canadian Jewish Congress contemplating bringing him to court? Won't this just enhance his prestige among the other crazies in our midst?

Well, the most obvious reason people have taken notice is that Villeneuve has shown in the past that he's ready to back up his threats with action. He has no qualms about taking another human life. Even the police agree that his talk of using molotov cocktails on Alliance Québec and his assorted threats against the Jewish community should be investigated.

Secondly, the climate in Québec since the referendum has gotten worse. Our former premier Jacques Parizeau blamed "money and the ethnics" for the Oui side's loss in his concession speech. The

now-infamous line that led to his downfall as premier ushered in a wave of vandalism against the "ethnic" owned businesses in Montréal. The language police are back, despite Premier Bouchard's overtures of tolerance made earlier this year at the Centaur theatre. The current PQ government is filled with hardliners like Bernard Landry and Louise Harel — the latter of whom signed a petition for Villeneuve's early release from prison. Recently, *Le Journal de Montréal*, the most widely read newspaper in Québec, hired Pierre Bourgault as a columnist. This is the same individual who

warned of a "dangerous" situation if non-francophones voted no in the referendum and called "Jews, Greeks and Italians racist" for voting no.

All this rhetoric against Québec's minority communities — including the recent venom spewed by Villeneuve — add to an already hostile climate that could foreseeably spark a violent act.

Lastly, Jack Jedwab — executive director of the Canadian Jewish Congress' Québec region — stated, "We want Mr. Villeneuve and his followers to know that the Jewish community will not be intimidated by

these threats."

I think Jack Jedwab has the right idea. We cannot sweep slimeballs like Villeneuve under the rug. We have to rise up and condemn the rhetoric of Villeneuve and his supporters — whoever they are. We have to take a stand against them, and reiterate that their conduct is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

If only we had leadership in this province that was willing to do the same.

Neil Sandler
President of Hillel McGill

cd reviews

Eels - Beautiful Freak (Dreamworks/MCA)

Newcomers to the Los Angeles arts scene, Eels is striving to make a place and a name for itself in the ever-growing, hostile music scene of Southern California. The band work out of the underground environment of Echo Park, Los Angeles' "freak zone" — home to the city's population of generation x-ers who have removed themselves from "mainstream" society and who relish in the hedonistic passions only the '90s can offer.

Eel's first album, not surpris-

ing music grows in popularity, Eels is sure to be successful not only in the fringe art society but in the music world at large.

— David Dexter

Subhumans - Pissed Off... With Good Reason (Essential Noise/Atlantic/Virgin)

Ur-punks in the Vancouver scene, the Subhumans' influence resonated throughout the '80s and into the '90s, despite their relatively brief existence from '78 to '82.

This is probably due to the fact that the band members, following their individual paths, joined or formed other influential bands (DOA, Shanghai Dog, to name a few) after having first made a name for the Subhumans on the west coast.

Unabashedly political and scathingly witty, this bands embodied the anti-mainstream spirit so prevalent in the early

stages of punk rock everywhere — a spirit now found in some surprising places. And they walked the walk: most notably, Gerry Useless became a legendary figure with his involvement with the activist group that bombed a missile parts plant and a hydro sub-station, and Brian Goble continued to do politically oriented music with DOA. Although ostensibly a retrospective album, *Pissed Off...* contains not only the reknowned (and fabulously-titled) "Death to the Sickoids," "Model of Stupidity," "Slave to my Dick" and "Fuck You," but also seven songs recorded last year in Edmonton for a revival tour/ summerjob project.

Well-produced, although not as glitzy as is currently the status quo for alt.rock, this album fits well into a roster of timelessly influential punk. Which is to say that it is valuably as a historical document and also as a contemporary example of "roots punk" (only in the '90s...).

— Jay McCoy



ingly entitled *Beautiful Freak*, stands as a midpoint on a spectrum that reaches from Portishead's mellow grooves to Beck's urban, almost-industrial, hip hop sounds. As exemplified by the first track, "Novocaine for the Soul", Eels combines some of these sounds to create an interesting, enjoyable and euphonic musical experience.

The lyrics on the album are claimed by the songwriters to be sometimes depressing, sometimes saddening and most often a celebration of freakishness — an aura that surrounds the band in all its endeavours, even penetrating the album's artwork. However, if this seems unappealing, it certainly doesn't hamper the album's ability to captivate and pacify its audience with melodic vocals and rhythmic beats.

With the help of such producers as Michael Simpson (Beastie Boys, Beck), *Beautiful Freak* is a boisterous introduction for this young musical entity. As bands continue to push the limits of experimentation and as this genre of placid yet subtly inspir-

EVENTS

Thursday, October 3

• McGill Students' International Development Initiative (MSIDI) meeting in Union 107/108, 19h30.

• The Anti-Poverty Group public meeting to fight the cuts in social programs at 6525 Somerled, suite #7, 9h30. Info: Maureen, 489-3548.

• Financial PCOC Meeting, Union 435, 18h30. Info: Nadine, 842-7425.

• Dr. Claudio Cuello on "Neurotrophin-induced remodelling of cortical synapses and its functional consequences," in 1033 Pine, rm 138.

• LBGTMs Women's Group meets in Women's Union (Union 423), 18h30.

Friday, October 4

• Lupus Québec benefit Casino Night at Marriott Château Champlain (1050 de la Gauchetière, corner Peel), 19h. Admission: \$15.

• Dan Daniels will speak on "the Padlock Days" at JHUST

(7077 Decarie Blvd). Admission: \$3 for non-members. Info: 484-5033.

• ACCM (Aids Community Care Montreal) is launching *La Rosée*, writings by people whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS at 3500 Calixa-Lavallée, 17-19h. Info: 587-2189.

• LBGTMs Coming Out Group meets in UTC basement (3521 University), 17h30.

• LBGTMs Men's Discussion Group meets in UTC basement (3521 University), 19h.

Saturday, October 5

• NDG Food Depot benefit spaghetti dinner with entertainment at Church of St. Columba (4020 Hingston), 12h-20h.

• Job Interview Workshop at 3437 Peel (4th floor), 10h-13h. Admission: \$20.00. Info: 398-4974.

Monday, October 7

• NDP MP Svend Robinson speaks in the Union Building, 10h30.

McGILL SPORT SHOP
(QUALITY SPORT LTD.)
475 Pine West Montreal
486-2565
499-8428

BACK TO SCHOOL SALE

continued until Oct. 11/96

Great Selection, Quality Merchandise
Best Prices, Wholesale Prices

EXTRA SPECIAL

JANSPORT BACKPACKS

with full lifetime guarantee

Lowest Prices In Town

MSc (Admin.)

Master of Science in Administration

Research based degree for specialized careers in one of four options:

- Finance
- Decision Sciences and M.I.S.
- Marketing
- Management

Information Session:

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 1996

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: 1550 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West
GM Building, Room 403-2

RSVP: 848-4149

Fax: 848-4593

Email: phdmsc@vax2.concordia.ca



Concordia
UNIVERSITY

REAL EDUCATION FOR THE REAL WORLD

Work in progress

by Noémi Tousignant

The Mea Culpa Collective explore this "woman thing"

The Montréal anglo-independent performing arts community sometimes suffers from a lack of peripheral vision. We can't see people coming in (they seem to become assimilated into the montrealness before we notice) nor are we overly aware of their leaving (they get voided from our collective memory).

But even in a closed system, it is possible to be refreshed by a rearrangement of the elements, and even something as simple as an all-female performance event can provide a fresh perspective into a seemingly static scene.

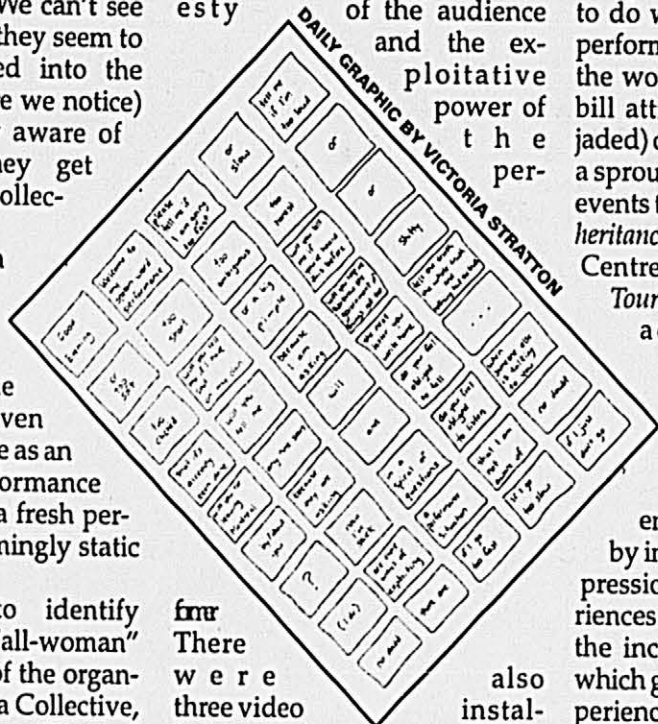
It's difficult to identify whether it was the "all-woman" label or the ideals of the organisers, the Mea Culpa Collective, which defined the quality and structure of the show and created its non-competitive and sympathetic atmosphere. Regardless, the combination of these influences produced a multi-media event which attracted a diverse and receptive audience — and gave us all an opportunity to discover some female artists we didn't know, and rediscover some we had just caught sandwiched between other acts.

There are certain dangers to this sort of event — for example, audience-targeting. This is when a select group are called upon to identify with an experience, while the rest range from feeling persecuted to feeling left out, with those in-between wriggling uneasily in their seats. Others try to shy away from the "woman thing," claiming meekly that they "don't want to get into that."

But last Saturday's Cabaret, entitled *Women's Work*, presented by the Mea Culpa Collective in their own loft space, wasn't like that. There was a strong sense of honesty and, dare I say it, solidarity, that pervaded the acts. The audience can often be demanding at this sort of event, but the atmosphere was receptive and the audience even maintained its attention focused throughout a barely whispered recital of love poems.

Mea Culpa opened *Women's Work* with an interpretation of "Song of the Shirt," a poem by Thomas Hood, and were followed by a dozen other acts, including Catherine Kidd performing a piece from her recent book *All I ever knew about Love I learnt from Taxidermy*, singer/songwriter Martha Wainwright and Gerry Gradauer, who runs the Tunnel Works dance company. Ginger Top, a couple of redheads, sang obscure folk songs about women dressing up as men (and sometimes just about women) and Victoria

Stanton delivered a dazzling silent performance with flash cards, exploring the honesty of the audience and the exploitative power of the performer.



There were three video installations, the last a powerful piece by Myriam Sampaio, about the need to

prove one's invisible identity.

Did this warmth and non-competitiveness have anything to do with the fact that all the performers were female? Or that the words "all-woman" on the bill attracted a friendlier (less jaded) crowd? There seems to be a sprouting of artistic all-female events these days, such as the *Inheritance* exhibit at the Strathearn Centre, and the *Silence Elles* Tourment film festival. Is there a common thread that runs through the words "all-woman?"

By definition, there is the link of a shared source of experience. But what I am struck by in these events is in the expression of the countless experiences of being a woman, and the incredible creative energy which goes into defining that experience, both as an individual and a collective one.

Another surprising feature of

this cabaret was the lack of hierarchy between the acts: each performance was given its own space, while running on a common theme which gave the event a sense of wholeness and of underlying homogeneity. The performers were aware of each other's work and shared the role of MC. Most stayed until the end, rather than taking off once their part was played.

These, in fact, are some of the elements which distinguish the shows produced by the Mea Culpa Collective, formed in the summer of '94, in response to certain insufficiencies in the Montreal Independent scene — such as the lack of performance settings which encourage interaction between an eclectic audience and the performers.

The collective, founded by Sacha Wentges, John Goodrich and Charles Northey, is comprised of a core group of artists who have backgrounds and in-

terests in different mediums — primarily acting, but also music and the visual arts. This prompted them to include the incorporation of different media within performances as part of their mandate.

They acquired their own space in September '95 — a loft situated on the corner of Ontario and St. Laurent — and since then have produced several cabarets. In each of these, Mea Culpa perform one of their own pieces which sets the tone for the events, turning them — *Women's Work* being no exception — from a mere talent show into a thematic whole.

Keep an eye out for Mea Culpa's next project in the *LeszVingt Jours du Risque* "theatre du risque" festival, Victoria Stanton's performance at "Enough Said" this Saturday at the *Dash* and Charles Northey's show, opening Saturday in studio 414 of the Belgo Building.

INHERITANCE Fifteen artists show a piece of themselves

by Simona Gheorghiu

I never realised the importance of knowing where you come from; my Romanian traditions are as much a part of me as my North American ideals. My family's experience's — my historical past — have shaped who I am. And just as my mother has passed on a history to me, I will pass on a history to my children.

Inheritance, an exhibit of the

ways — to each viewer. Some of the women express the relationship between themselves and their mothers, and their children, and to a whole ethnic group. They try to express this connection through various mediums from personal letters to oil paints to watercolors to fabric to films.

I don't want to single out any of the artists as being the "best" or the "most important." The following artists are just the ones who affected me the most. Patsy van Roost, a Belgium born painter, takes the relationship between her parents to express a part of herself. She has taken 222 love letters, written from her father to her mother over the course of a year, and has turned them into origami chairs. Patsy also took the 357 divorce papers and has turned them into barf bags. To show the "absurdity" of the two documents she has

of marriage and communication break down.

Ruth Kaplan deals more with the mother-daughter relationship and the relationship to her Jewish family. She has produced black and white photographs showing Holocaust survivors in Eastern European baths. The pictures express the complicated and silent ordeals of the Jewish community. The series also includes a portrait of her mother after World War II, in which her face shows the great tragedy of the war. Kaplan tries to express the psychological relationship that motherhood offers, and all the knowledge passed from her mother on to her. Two of her pictures were taken in a hot spring in Baile Herculane in Romania. From my obvious connection with the country and with the coincidence that I was there only last year, I was moved by the pictures. I looked at the old woman in the pictures who is trying to wash away her pains, and underneath the woman's wrinkled old skin, I saw my grandmother, my mother and myself all rolled into one. Maybe my sentimental nature has made me think of things past and of things to come, or maybe Ruth Kaplan has gotten to theme of *Inheritance*.

Carole Beaulieu's family has been a part of Quebec since the seventeenth century. In her art work she tries to show her new born child the wide variety of inheritance in the family. She has produced a quilt using photo transfer imagery; she uses images from Canada, Eritrea

(her husband's home country), and France (to trace her roots). In front of the hanging quilt, Beaulieu has placed a green rocking chair; the whole presentation is very welcoming and dear to the heart. Her quilt gets to the heart of women like myself who have to deal with our children's wide inheritance. Carol has taken the diversity of her own background and her husbands, and is now presenting it to her child.

The whole exhibition is not only extremely moving and personal, it is also inspirational. The artists I have mentioned are only a few of the women who have artworks exhibited. Each of the works are strong by themselves, but the theme makes them exceptional. The theme of *Inheritance* is one that many of us can relate to: the "bloodlines crossing continents" or to the removal of people from one place to another. *Inheritance* tries to show all the connections the women have with family, memories, birth and marriage. The idea that every person has an important role in the history of her family and in the history of a whole group of people is very much alive in *Inheritance*. All the artists bring a different aspect of inheritance to public eye. I suggest going to see the exhibition to see the works I have talked about and to see the ones I didn't have the chance to analyze.

Inheritance is being presented at Strathearn Intercultural Centre, 3680 rue Jeanne Mance. For information call 982-1812.



"HOME" BY GENEVIEVE MORIN

work of 15 women artists, is an exploration of this link between women and their legacy. Each of the artists brings a part of her world for the public view; the result is an exhibit that is both personal to each of the artists and relevant — if in different

ring in each of the bags. She is trying to show the communication between her parents which began with the wonderful love letters, and the final ending of the relationship with the divorce. Her inheritance from her parents has been to see the fall

LET'S TALK ABOUT WORK

Drawing lines of communication at the International Conference on Prostitution & Other Sex Work

by Melanie Fearon

Sometimes a discussion that would appear to be all about sex is not really about sex at all. It may be that a discussion of sex is about something else entirely, or, in the case of the *When sex works: an International Conference on Prostitution & Other Sex Work*, it may be turn out to be about a whole lot more. Like work.

A project of The Québec Public Interest Research Groups (QPIRG) at McGill University, Université du Québec à Montréal, Concordia University and Université de Montréal, this international conference was the first such conference in North America and took place at

tion to stereotype and ghettoise sex workers, effectively estranging them from the health system, the law and other social safety nets that most other working citizens demand as a right.

Activists Speak Out

The question posed by Josée Lafond, a professor of sexology at UQAM, addressed the notion of societal liability when she asked, "Isn't it our society that is allowing these living conditions?" It is the criminalisation and its societal interpretations that condones an inhumanity that is entirely dependent upon a certain

all women such as racism, lesbophobia, homophobia and class-related issues.

As stated by Pheterson, the line between who is and who is not a whore is not a fixed delineation, and "any woman can be stigmatised as a whore." The institutionalised control and criminalisation over a form of work that is primarily conducted by women infringes upon both the physical and social mobility of all women, whether they be sex or home workers. Work is work and should not be subject to the whims of moral judgment.

Towards decriminalisation

Participants in the conference overwhelmingly supported the decriminalisation of those sections in the Criminal Code related to prostitution. Although the act of prostitution is not and never has been illegal (or legal) in Canada, the criminalisation of many activities related to prostitution effectively results in its own criminalisation. Those activities deemed illegal in the current legislation enforced by the Criminal Code are as follows: communicating in a public place for the purposes of prostitution (s. 213c), providing directions, taking or showing someone to a common bawdy house (s. 211), procuring to (obtain for another a person for sexual services) (s. 212), and living on the avails (benefits) of prostitution (s. 212).

Toronto has substantial support for decriminalisation and has communicated this recommendation to the Federal government. Alternative regulations supported by those in favour of decriminalisation, including the Coalition to Decriminalize Adult Prostitution in Canada, propose that sex work be regulated like other forms of work, using "already existing laws such as the occupational, health, and safety codes, as well as being subject to taxation laws."

It was at Sunday's panel discussion when the highly contentious issue of what is commonly known as "child" prostitution created some amount of conflict. According to section 212.4 of the Criminal Code, anyone who obtains or attempts to obtain the sexual services of a person who is under eighteen is liable to imprisonment not exceeding five years. In general, the number of prostitutes working in vari-

ous Canadian cities is difficult to determine due to the stigmatisation and harassment to which many sex workers are subjected.

Unfortunately, this didn't stop Beverly Longstaff, an alderperson from Calgary, from sharing fabricated statistics that concluded that out of 800 prostitutes working in the Calgary area, only 200 were "adult" prostitutes (that is, prostitutes over the age of 18). When questioned, Longstaff revoked her claim, explaining the difficulty in verification for these figures.

As Anna, a vocal participant in Sunday's panel discussion, stated, "I have been subject to many types of discrimination, one of which is age discrimination." Anna expressed her repulsion at the condescending words of the representatives from Calgary and Montréal that would challenge the knowledge of a 17 year old to determine her own sexual practices.

A forthcoming press release on behalf of a majority of the speakers and participants at the conference was subsequently altered due to the presence of the word "adult" in a proposal to be submitted to the federal government following the conference. The amended version of this statement presents support for decriminalisation of prostitution (versus 'adult' prostitution) and requests a response from the government within a month of its issue.

Proclaimed a success by its organisers and participants, the only criticism prevalent at the conference concerned the lack of adequate local representation. For example, conference volunteer and participant Ian was disappointed at the emphasis on women sex workers and felt that the appearance of male, transgender and transsexual sex workers almost resembled "tokenism." It was pointed out, however, that 20 to 30 per cent of sex workers are male, a statistic that was represented in the audience if not on the panels. Additionally, Montréal-based sex workers and sex workers organisations were sparse, with only STELLA making an appearance on the stage.

It was obvious from the discussions that the issue affecting every participant in the conference was decriminalisation. Solid lines of communication were drawn, starting and ending with the realities of sex workers' needs.

Those activities deemed illegal in the current legislation enforced by the Criminal Code are as follows: communicating in a public place for the purposes of prostitution (s. 213c), providing directions, taking or showing someone to a common bawdy house (s. 211), procuring to (obtain for another a person for sexual services) (s. 212), and living on the avails (benefits) of prostitution (s. 212).

UQAM on September 27, 28 and 29. Speakers and participants both on the stage and in the audience included former and current sex workers, representatives from sex workers' rights organizations, activists, academics, police and politicians.

Conference attendees joined to critically analyse what exactly it was we were talking about when we talked about 'sex' and the cause for its corresponding legitimate or illegitimate status. As conference spokesperson Daniel Sansfaçon stated, "l'interrogation est la même que la révolution."

Translating the language of real life

The Conference on Prostitution & Other Sex Work spent over one year in the planning stages and was initiated and coordinated by Mini Alakkatusery and co-coordinated by Jean-Bruno Tremblay. The conference itself was realised due to the efforts of a hard working volunteer base and organisational body. Daily panel discussions and workshops were designed to demystify the work that is sex work and to address and explore surrounding issues. The basic objectives of the conference centered around the sharing of information and experiences about sex work and to examine the translation of such practices according to Canadian regulations.

An outcome of the conference that was by no means a shock to its participants concluded that this translation was sorely lacking.

For this reason, the conference began with a definition of the varying types of sex work and an exploration of the living conditions of sex workers. Although other types of sex work were mentioned, such as nude dancing and pornography, it was the reality of the working conditions of prostitutes, especially street workers, that was of utmost concern. The negative connotations and debasement that accompany this type of work func-

profession.

On the other hand, it is obvious from the testimony of activists that changes are being made. For instance, Margo St. James, founder of COYOTE (Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics) the first prostitutes' rights organization in the US, stated that the dancers at the "Lusty Lady" in San Francisco have just recently become members of the Service Employees' National Union.

Gail Pheterson, editor of the book *A Vindication of the Rights of Whores*, and an activist of prostitutes rights since the mid 1970's, likened the fear of stigmatisation of sex workers to that of the queer community in 'coming out'. Many of the



LEFT TO RIGHT; MARGO ST. JAMES, PRISCILLA ALEXANDER, CAROL LEIGH, CHAIR OF SAN FRANCISCO TASK FORCE ON PROSTITUTION, JOSÉE LAFOND, PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SEXOLOGY, UQAM, GAIL PETERSON, NORMA-JEAN ALMODOVAR, PRESIDENT OF COYOTE

longtime activists involved in the conference, including St. James, Priscilla Alexander, coordinator of the North American Task Force on Prostitution and researcher at PONY (Prostitutes of New York), shared that they first became involved in sex workers' rights because the oppressions that are legalised and legitimised within prostitution are those oppressions that have historically divided



LEFT TO RIGHT; DANIEL SANSAÇON, CONFERENCE SPOKESPERSON, ALLAN TRÉPANIÉ, DIRECTOR OF MORALITY SECTION, MONTRÉAL URBAN COMMUNITY POLICE, MARTIN LEMAY, REPRESENTATIVE FROM CITY OF MONTRÉAL

"TAINTED BLOOD NOT TAINTED PEOPLE"

Red cross cancels blood drive in face of protest

by Mark Narron

Yesterday morning, dozens of Canadian Red Cross employees in blue jumpsuits could be seen lugging equipment and chairs out of the Shatner Ballroom and loading them into a fleet of red vans parked outside.

Denise Noiureau, one of the nurses in charge of the Blood Drive slowly sipped her coffee as the ballroom emptied. When asked what happened with the Blood Drive she replied, "I found a note on my desk this morning saying that the Blood Drive was cancelled." When I asked her if she knew why the Blood Drive was ending two days ahead of schedule, she replied defeatedly, "Ask the Gay Association."

The "Gay Association" to which she was referring could more accurately be described as hundreds of concerned students, queer and straight, who oppose the discriminatory questionnaire used by the Red Cross to prevent gay men from giving blood.

The questionnaire specifically labels men who admit to having sex with another male since 1977, as unfit donors.

Chris Carter, President of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) and former administrator of the Lesbians, Bisexuals, Gays and Transgendered of McGill (LBGTGM), planned to make a point yesterday with the help of a few friends from the queer community, by trying to give blood.

According to Carter, "The event was scheduled to highlight the irresponsibility of the questionnaire, its discriminatory nature and to highlight the threats posed to the safety of the blood supply through inaccurate screening."

Carter invited the Montréal Gazette and other media representatives to witness the McGill Students' Society President get rejected for simply being gay.

Red Cross closes shop

When the Montreal Gazette leaked word of the scheduled act of protest to the Red Cross the Blood Drive was immediately shut down.

A press release, submitted by André Ménard, Director of Public Relations for the Canadian Red Cross, contained this explanation for the Blood Drive's cancellation: "This decision came as a result of the possibility that certain students who declare themselves homosexuals and are in disagreement with the health questionnaire, wanted to try to make a blood donation at the McGill Donor Clinic."

In response to the cancella-

tion, John Batsis, student coordinator of the Blood Drive called a meeting last night with the executives of the Science Undergraduate Society (SUS), Chris Carter, and other Council members of SSMU to voice frustration over the cancellation.

John Batsis accused Carter's actions as "ending our blood drive and losing our anticipated donors, and this might have an impact on our blood drives in the future."

The questionnaire appeals to mainstream panic and stigma against certain groups instead of acting responsibly. After all the bad publicity the Red Cross got, they must know the basic flaws in their questionnaire

Anna-Louise Crago
Safer-sex educator, activist and

Carter responded, "It was never our intention to have the Blood Drive canceled. We actually encouraged people to give blood because obviously it is a noble cause. It was our intention to raise awareness because this is not just about discrimination but about the safety of the blood supply."

Carter explained that after the Red Cross threatened to shut down the Blood Drive late Tuesday night, last minute negotiations were attempted to prevent cancellation:

"At the eleventh hour, we issued a statement to the Red Cross telling them that I would bite the bullet and not show up to the Blood Drive if the regional directors agreed to a public meeting on November 4 to talk about the questionnaire."

However, the Red Cross ignored that option, preferring instead to cancel the Blood Drive, an action which John Batsis estimates cost the Red Cross approximately 800 pints of blood.

Sarah Mayes, an SUS executive, present at the meeting via speakerphone, reminded those opposed to Carter's action, that he was simply fulfilling his mandate as President.

"It is written in the SSMU constitution that we as students have the right not to be discriminated against on our campus"

Mayes pointed out.

Moreover, SSMU Council passed a motion last Thursday to have Chris Carter petition the Red Cross, urging them to change their questionnaire. This petition is now included in the SSMU Policy Manual and will be honored by every SSMU President hereafter.

Following last night's SUS meeting, Karen Kwaok commented that the SUS executives "support Chris' actions overall."

Meanwhile André Ménard said that there has "been no discussion about whether the Blood Drive will be canceled next year."

Safety First?

The questionnaire, a mandatory screening process for every potential blood donor, addresses the risk-factor for AIDS in one sweeping question. The infamous question number 15, in its entirety reads:

"The following activities put you at risk for AIDS

- if male, having sex with another male, even once
- receiving regular treatment with blood products
- accepting money or drugs in exchange for sex
- being the sexual partner or someone who has taken part in any of the above activities or who has contracted AIDS or has tested positive for AIDS

Since 1977, have you participated in any of the above activities?"

To answer "yes" to this question is to be politely asked to leave, or, to honor your privacy, to courteously have your blood taken and then discretely thrown away by the Red Cross.

Safer sex educators such as nurses and other members of the medical community agree that the questionnaire is blatantly discriminatory, singling out groups of people as "high risk" instead of delineating high risk behavior.

Dr. Pierre Tellier, director of McGill Health Services agrees that the questionnaire discriminates by stigmatizing gay men. He characterises this as a psychologically damaging practice to which the Red Cross is insensitive.

"The question reinforces all the negative stereotypes of the community. There is a high incidence of suicide among gay men. Statistically gay men have low self-esteem. And a question of that nature only perpetuates this".

Anna-Louise Crago, a prominent activist, educator and consultant around safer-sex issues, concurs. She too has serious concerns that the questionnaire perpetuates the myth that

heterosexuals are not at risk for contracting HIV. "The controversy is being framed as a gay civil rights issue, and that's not correct. But because the Red Cross is a respected organization, people may believe the questionnaire to be true."

Crago contends that the questionnaire reflects more of a public relations concern than a service to public health. "48% of all the people in the world who are contracting HIV are women, mostly through heterosexual intercourse."

"The questionnaire appeals to mainstream panic and stigma against certain groups instead of acting responsibly. After all the bad publicity the Red Cross got, they must know the basic flaws in their questionnaire."

Tellier, a doctor who oversees HIV testing, claims that the questionnaire is not only discriminatory but irresponsible. "There are probably women who are giving blood who have unprotected sex with multiple partners and are therefore putting the population at risk. The fact that women are discounted in the questionnaire is a problem. I agree that it should describe risk behavior."

Discriminatory and Irresponsible

LBGTGM, in a campaign to raise awareness about the issue set up a table adjacent to the Blood Drive, handing out brochures to prospective donors and conducting a letter writing campaign to the Red Cross. LBGTGM's suggestion to revise Question Fifteen simply involves changing the "if male, having sex with another male, even once" clause to: "having unprotected vaginal and/or anal intercourse."

on campus, decided to cancel the event this year. In its letter to the coordinators of the Blood Drive, the IRC stated:

"We cannot hold a Blood Drive challenge knowing residents would be turned away at the door because of who they are as individuals. Everyone in residence has a right to come to an IRC event and expect to be able to participate in it."

As for the Red Cross itself, the regional directors declined to return the Daily's phone calls. A Public Relations press release from the Red Cross addressed the importance of the questionnaire in one short paragraph:

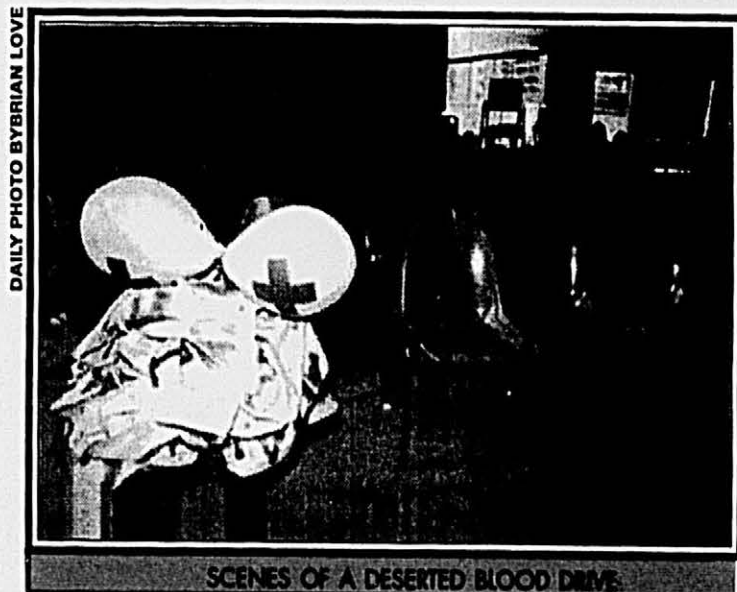
"The effectiveness of the questionnaire rests on the relationship of trust between donors and the Red Cross. Unfortunately, the actions of certain students at McGill University broke this bond of trust."

Activists criticise that this attitude prioritizes public confidence in the blood supply over public health.

Concerning question 15, the Red Cross has stated, "The Red Cross must err on the side of safety." And Dr. Antonio Giulivi, medical director for the Ottawa Red Cross Society, told the Carleton University Charlatan that "The public most likely will not support the advocacy of human rights over the safety of blood."

However, Darrell Tan, Political Coordinator for LBGTGM feels that the Red Cross's attempts to save face not only jeopardize the blood supply, but ridiculously pit the gay community's wishes against the interests of public health.

"Human rights and a clean blood supply are not mutually exclusive," stated Tan. "You can



SCENES OF A DESERTED BLOOD DRIVE

The Inter-Residence Council (IRC) has also taken active steps to show its disapproval of the questionnaire along with LBGTGM and SSMU.

IRC, which usually holds a "Blood Challenge" competition to reward blood donors living

protect the blood supply and listen to people at the same time. They keep hammering home the notion that they have to protect the blood supply as a way of telling us to shut up, when they really haven't addressed the issue."

Queer activists unite!

McGill students organise first LGBT conference

by Mariko Tamaki

This weekend, McGill's first Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgendered (LGBT) Activism and Awareness Conference demonstrated the ability of 'grassroots' organisation to overcome even the most unexpected obstacles.

Despite the difficulties posed by McGill's campus-wide power failure, the conference, which took place last Friday through Sunday was deemed a success by its 60 participants from Ontario and Québec.

Organised by co-coordinators Hannah Rogers, administrator of LGBT McGill, and McGill student Meredith Cohen, the conference began Friday evening with a presentation and discussion lead by ÉGALE's (Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere) John Fisher and Claudette Branchard.

The speakers discussed the importance of communication across Canada in promoting legislative change like the recent passing of Bill C-33, an amendment adding sexual orientation to Canada's Human Rights Act, and although ÉGALE works at the federal level for political change, Fisher stressed that individual action for political progress is also important. "It is only through personal involvement, he noted, that we can expect change."

Participants in the discussion debated different views of both American and Canadian politics, covering such topics as the Reform Party and the question of gay marriage.

Saturday's events included three seminars, including one which tackled the issue of Lesbians and AIDS. Another, led by Suzanne Girard, organiser of Montréal's Diversité pride march, examined the history of Pride Day in Montréal and the challenge of organising such an event, like dealing with police, corporate sponsors, and a community as diverse as the queer community in Montréal.

After a brief intermission, the conference turned its focus toward media issues featuring speakers Richard Burnett, columnist of HOUR magazine's 'queer column', and M-J Milloy, regional coordinator for Canadian University Press (CUP). The media seminar was geared towards helping newcomers understand what makes the media tick and "taming the media monster."

Perhaps the most compelling event of the conference was Saturday evening's Spoken Word at Sky Pub's Cabaret, featuring performances by Atif Siddiqi

and Rima Banerji (both members of Saathi, a South Asian Queer Culture Group) and a discussion concerning queers of colour. It was an evening of riveting performances.

"The benefit of spoken word poetry", Rima noted, "is that it is able to address issues in a way standard lectures can't, because poetry refers to specific personal experiences. As a result, messages hit harder, allowing listeners to make personal connections with the subjects being addressed." This was certainly true in the case of Rima's second poem *Summer is the season of Sun and Rape*, a piece which addressed the problem of lesbian bashing. Rima's other two poems, *Untitled*, and *Partitions*, addressed similar fears and frustrations connected to the struggle for identity within the queer community.

Atif Siddiqi's poem *Pride Day*, described the experience of Pride Day festivities in Toronto. *Pride Day*, a tri-lingual poem



JOHN FISHER AND CLAUDETTE BRANCHARD GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE LGBT ACTIVISM AND AWARENESS CONFERENCE

written in English, French and Urdu, poked fun at the 'circus'-like experience of Pride Day in Toronto, where festivities tend to feel, at points, like a parade for the entertainment of conservative Torontonians spectators.

For conference attendees, the spoken word element on Saturday night was a chance not only to relax after a day of lectures, but also look at the Queer community from a different perspective. Discussion after the performances examined the problems of the Queer community not as a whole, but as a commu-

nity made up of several diverse communities, including queer people of colour.

One idea behind the evening, Rima explained, was to create a "space" where conference participants could discuss some of the issues and concerns that affect different groups within the queer community; a space not simply for recognising the problems of difference but also the possibilities of diversity.

On Sunday morning the conference featured two queer theorists: PhD student Rebecca Pates, a member of the queer theory group at McGill, and Jean-Ernest Joos, a queer theorist and lecturer at UQAM. Joos discussed various schools and trends of queer theory. The seminar elicited a lengthy discussion, in particular about where and how theory can be put into practice.

According to Rogers, what last weekend's conference demonstrates is the broadness of the phrase "activism and aware-

ness," adding that "we tried to create a conference that combined the theoretical and the hands-on approach to activism and awareness." What participants of this weekend's conference learned is that there is more to being queer than just being 'out of the closet'.

As one participant at Saturday's spoken word performance noted, coming out is merely the first 'hurdle' members of the queer community must confront. Activism and awareness is a battle fought and, eventually, won in several arenas: the courts, the parliament, the press, and in the classroom. It is a battle against prejudices and assumptions both inside and outside the community. It is a battle that requires our participation both as individuals, and as a community, if it is going to be victorious.

As Rebecca Pates stated during Sunday's queer theory seminar, "identifying as queer is a stance of resistance," and last weekend's conference occurred in order to strengthen our collective forces.

A Vision of one's own

The festival Silence elles tournent

by Meredith Cohen

Montréal is fortunate enough to be a city that hosts many festivals and starting tomorrow it will host the second largest international women's film festival in the world — the only one of its kind in North America.

Élise Guilbault, Organiser of the 9th annual "Silence elles tournent" — as the festival is known — says the 150 films being shown this year are "quite eclectic."

She goes on to say that the festival will feature productions by women from 34 countries and will "push the fact that women's work is valid."

Dominique Langelin, director of the festival, comments that this year the films will emphasise the diversity of women's contributions to filmmaking.

"In the past it has been labeled as a

feminist festival," she explains.

And this label, according to the organisers, has limited the scope of the festival because audiences believed the films only dealt with women's issues.

This year, Langelin says, "The subject is varied. We are trying to get rid of all labels."

Langelin also says she hopes to emphasise the work women do as directors.

The festival provides a much needed place in which to showcase the work of women directors as so many of the mainstream festivals neglect their work altogether.

"Less than 10% of the films at the Cannes festival were directed by women," declares Langelin. "The big festivals tend to play it safe."

The first film to be featured at the fes-

tival is a short film from Australia called *End of the Line* on Friday, October 4, on the 3rd floor of the Imperial Cinema.

The second film is a documentary called *Mon cœur est témoin*, directed by Louise Carrière of Québec.

The ten day event will showcase world premiers alongside the work of pioneers in the film industry such as Patricia Roséma, director of *I've Heard The Mermaid Singing*, Mira Nair director of *Salam Bombay*, Juliet Berto director of *Hâvre*, Jane Campion, director of *The Piano Lesson* and Micheline Lanctôt, director of *Sontaine*.

The festival Silence elles tournent runs from October 4 - 13 at the cinemas Imperial, 1432 Bleury; and du Parc, 3575 Avenue du Parc.



1. Ex DEA links Contras to U.S. Drug flights

The Central Intelligence Agency of the United States has recently come under investigation for drug smuggling for profit in the Nicaraguan contra war in the 1980s.

Last week, Celerino Castillo III, the former Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) agent in Nicaragua told reporters that he came across evidence in the 1980s that members of the CIA backed rebel forces in Nicaragua (who were fighting the left-wing Sandinista government) were smuggling cocaine into the U.S.

Castillo's statements added fuel to the fire already burning about suspicions over the CIA's involvement in supplying crack cocaine to the Los Angeles market.

Since last month, the San José Mercury News has had a series of articles claiming that cocaine was distributed through the San Francisco bay area drug ring, with the proceeds supporting the Contras at war in Nicaragua.

In response, the House Intelligence Committee and the CIA inspector have begun an inquiry into these flights as a part of the drug pipeline from Colombian drug cartels to black neighborhoods in Southern California.

Castillo, who retired in 1992, claimed that he reported his

findings to the DEA but was told that the flights were sanctioned by the White House. Castillo got a similar response from the 1980s ambassador to El Salvador, Edwin G. Corr, when he accused the ambassador of ignoring the flights out of the Ilopango U.S. air base which the CIA used for logistical support to the Contras. Corr told him "My hands are tied because these are contra operations being run by the White House."

But Castillo claims that he continued to send cables to Washington listing the dates and the plane numbers of drug flights out of Ilopango. Many of the flights were flown by U.S. pilots hired by the Contra leaders, he said.

Castillo's reports are still somewhere in a black hole at the DEA, waiting for someone to find them.

Civil Rights activist, Dick Gregory, who was present at Castillo's news conference last week, says he intends to take legal action to get the government to release Castillo's reports.

The DEA office refused to comment, saying the issue is

under federal investigation.

Source: *Arm the Spirit*
ats@locust.cic.net

2. Burma detains 109 activists, thwarts meeting

Preparing for the anniversary of their party's formation, Burma's

the ruling State Law Order and Restoration Council (SLORC).

He also said the NLD was joining forces with foreign governments like the U.S. to hold the congress in an effort to undermine Burma's peace and stability.

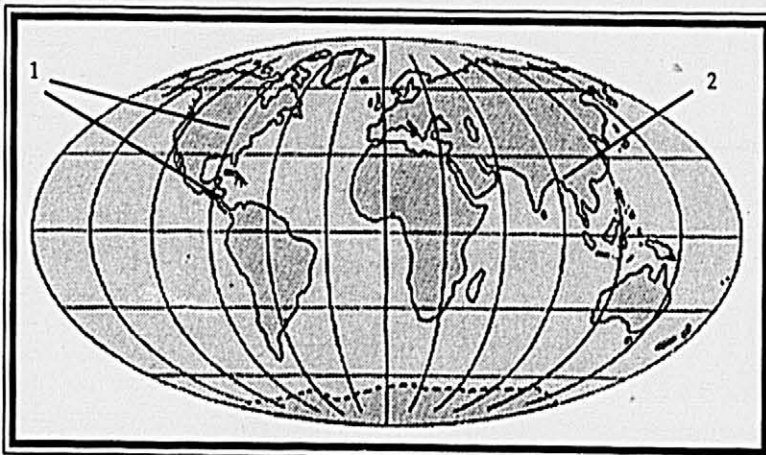
He said the NLD and U.S. had timed the meeting to coincide with discussions of a sanctions bill against Burma in the U.S. Congress.

The bill urges Burma's military government to improve its human rights record and says the U.S. will not offer Burma assistance except for humanitarian or anti-

narcotics aid. It is supported by the Clinton administration and welcomed by Daw Suu Kyi.

The measure also allows the president to prohibit U.S. investment in Burma if Daw Suu Kyi is re-arrested or exiled, or if there is large-scale repression of the opposition. U.S. officials expect the bill to be approved by both the House and the Senate and to be signed into law by Clinton.

However, the NLD denied any ties to the U.S.. One member said that the NLD was hold-



National League for Democracy (NLD) found itself blocked by Burmese authorities.

On September 27, Burmese police detained 109 activists and blocked all roads leading to democracy leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house.

"The reason for preventing the meeting from taking place is because they invited more than 200 representatives, and a congress of this size needs prior consent of the authorities and they failed to do this," one official of



ing the meeting to celebrate its eighth anniversary.

The party, born amid unprecedented protests against military rule in 1988, won a landslide victory in the 1990 general elections which was never recognised by the SLORC. Daw Suu Kyi, daughter of Burma's revered independence leader, Aung San, was under house arrest at the time.

The party congress was to have been the first time Suu Kyi would meet the elected representatives of the NLD as a group. In May, the government detained more than 260 party delegates due to attend a similar NLD congress. The SLORC released most of them after about 10 days, but several dozen were charged and given long prison terms.

Source: *Burmanews-@igc.apc.org*

off the darkroom floor...

by trevor lloyd



untitled

The off-the-edge poetry of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*

by Julien Lapointe

Running amok with nowhere to go

When dismissing a film adaptation of a theatrical or literary work, reviewers tend to resort to a common false argumentation — that the supposedly failed movie in question has no *raison d'être*. Meaning, as with the case of the recently disparaged film version of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*, the movie is but a useless recycling of an artistic work already conceived for another medium. The cinema, it is too often said, has no new aesthetic qualities to offer to any classics or masterworks already belonging to another form of art.

American Buffalo, a smashingly good movie, has already been unjustly underrated by a good deal of the mainstream press. Written by Mamet, the film version is a word-for-word adaptation of the author's classic. Although the meanings of the original work have been retained, the director Michael Corrente does not treat the dramatic proceedings as if they belonged to a play. This new *American Buffalo* conforms to certain theatrical conventions (such as unity of space, a minimal amount of characters, and a plot mostly comprised of conversational episodes), but is otherwise so deeply embedded in the language of the film medium that one forgets the story being told on screen was ever conceived for the stage. As such, Corrente brings new meaning to this 21 year-old classic.

The plot mainly concerns two lower-class loners, Don (Dennis Franz) and Teach (Dustin Hoffman). They spend their time talking about wanting to retrieve a supposedly valuable coin, which Don has sold for what he now believes is too small a price. Yet they never get around to doing anything about their loss.

American Buffalo takes place almost entirely within the confines of a junk shop Don runs. He's a mournful loser, occasionally naïve and energetic, but on the whole an under-achiever. He's just about ready to let life pass him by, as if the trash in his store had swallowed him up. Franz plays Don with a large degree of quiet subtlety, cultivating a screen presence of self-effacement in keeping with Don's personality. His deep voice and slow gestures are as appealing as they are disconcerting. The man is somewhat ambiguous, because we can never figure out how or when this nice guy



turned into such a loser, giving up on all ambitions and allowing himself to be exploited by others. He just seems to have lost his bearings, and the simple, matter-of-fact nature of his failed life is what makes him a figure of pathos.

Teach is a low-life con-man, a disreputable egotist, only concerned with his own interests and uncaring of anyone else — though he claims incessantly to be Don's best pal. Hoffman gives one of his best performances. He could have easily treated the part as a mere star-vehicle for his hyper-talent, upstaging the material and vulgarising the characterization with self-conscious acting and a series of gimmicky mannerisms (as with in *Lenny*, *Rain Man* and *Hero*). He brings a fervent drive to the performance by using his forceful presence to convey the character's frailties, so Teach's apparent *bravura* is exposed as being nothing more than a shallow trick which lures others into trusting him. He's a

vacuous showman, and Hoffman expresses both his character's charisma and emptiness with forthright honesty. This is his most convincing work in over 10 years.

As much as *American Buffalo* owes much of its success to the

in Don's shop, Corrente films the location as a mysterious, insulated hell-hole. The colours are almost all dark hues, with many obscure shadings. Corrente crowds each shot with a density of objects and figures (the junk in Don's shop, Teach's dirty hotel room, the red light of some electric panel sign shining off a window); there is such a surfeit of realism, one has the impression the film has imploded under the weight of its own stylistic excess. And what Corrente gives us is the dreary aftermath of an apocalypse, a morbid nightmarish fantasy.

Corrente captures the universe of Mamet flawlessly. Reading the play is such a unique experience because the tone of poetic languor residing over the apparent harshness of Mamet's dialogue is rendered so skillfully. As a result, the essential futility (endless conversations leading to nowhere) of the writing grows into an evocative motif which fuels the author's artistry. Corrente's directing is equally mannered, but purposefully so: he mechanizes his film, but does so gracefully, artistically. He traps the characters within a cold, aesthetic framework, just as they're caught in their dead-end lives, and then seizes their tragic nobility. Don and Teach represent the "filth" of society, yet they're not unworthy of our attention.

This is quite unlike any other

between us and the work. If he plunges us into a wasteland of decay, it is only to keep us lost within its barriers. This isn't for mere shock effect. Rather, Corrente is exploring the film's resources in relationship with the play's meanings. There are times when he dehumanises the characters by filming them in a particular fashion. When we first see Teach he's on an empty street, blurting out some angry obscenities. Corrente films Teach from far-away, so that he's part of the background, and thereby characterises him, through the use of cinematography as being nothing more than a temperamental speck of dust. Technically, he's just a small figure on the screen: a piece of worthlessness.

Other times, such as with Don, Corrente films the actor's sullen face so closely, the proximity has a startling effect. Don, with his sagging cheeks and weary gaze, appears as a disfigured mass of sorrowful inertia. As with Teach, he has no real identity or destiny in life, he's just a state of emotion without any purpose.

Corrente, though, doesn't weigh his film down with its morose nature. The editing is quick, set to the rhythm of Mamet's rapid-fire dialogue. He occasionally varies the angle shots when filming a conversation. He never lets the camera settle down, keeping it vigorous and alive. We, the viewers, are caught in the onward rush of film aesthetics as well as the speed of Mamet's nervous, edgy writing. However, at the same time, we are also aware of the underlying presence of hopelessness inherent to the thematic subject itself. *American Buffalo* is about energy running amok, but without anywhere to go. It's both alive and rumbling, and lugubrious and slow-moving. The discharge of this contradictory feeling leaves one a little numbed and awed. This is a stringent, caustic tale of existential grandeur.



combined talents of Mamet, Franz and Hoffman (as well as the young Sean Nelson, in a minor part as an adolescent friend of Don), what makes this production work as a movie is Michael Corrente's directing. Much of the action being staged

film adaptation of a play I've seen. Corrente pulls the usual trick of framing the actors in close-up shot for the sake of creating an ambiance of intimacy between us, the viewers, and the characters' emotions. Yet he also maintains an austere distance

American Buffalo
is playing at the Egyptian.

daily classifieds

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication. McGill Students & Staff (with valid ID): \$4.60 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$4.05 per day. General Public: \$5.75 per day, or \$4.90 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. Extra charges may apply, prices include applicable GST (7%) or PST (6.5%). Full payment should accompany your advertising order and may be made in cash or by personal cheque (for amounts over \$20 only). For more information, please visit our office or call 398-6790. WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER. The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damages due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

MOVERS / STORAGE

Moving/Storage. Closed van or truck. Local & long distance. Oti-Tor-Van-NY-Fla-7 days, 24 hours, low rates. **Steve 735-8148.**

HELP WANTED

Earn \$100-200/day Master School of Bartending—bartending & table service. Complete placement agency. Leaders in the hospitality industry for 15yrs. McGill rate. 849-2828.

Group Leader Needed for Dawson Israel Semester Program. January 8 to May 26, 1997. Qualifications. Experience in working with youth, previous visit to Israel, knowledge of Hebrew. Contact N. Parry, Dawson College 931-8731, local 1473 or 486-2076.

Subjects required for language research. We are looking for subjects aged 18-35, who are right-handed and native English speakers. Subjects are compensated for their time. If you are willing to participate please call: 398-4924 and mention Memory Study.

Looking for barmaids for Karaoke bar. Chinese spoken is an asset. Part or full time positions avail. Good working atmosphere. Call Coco 849-8094.

Full time/part time/any time. Macintosh literature for office work. Metropolitan News, newspapers & magazines from around the world. 1109 Cypress st. 866-9227.

WORDPROCESSING/TYPING

Success To All Students
WordPerfect 5.1. Term papers, resumes, applications, transcription of micro-cassettes. Editing of grammar. 28 years experience. \$1.75/D.S.P. 7 Days/week. Campus/Peel/Sherbrooke. Paulette/Roxanne 288-9638/288-0016

Experienced editor/proofreader/writer/tutor. Help with your student papers, theses, manuscripts, résumés, translation Spanish/French/English. Call Marian 765-9804 7days/week.

Word-processing term-papers, theses, reports etc. Word Perfect 5.1 Laser printer. Fast, professional service, good rates. Close to McGill. Brigitte 282-0301.

Word Processing: 1.50\$/page, laser printing: \$.60/page, graphs, translation, CV, etc. SF Text; 66 Sherbrooke Ouest #11; 284-6050.

Count on me... Save your time text processing by reliable professional-term papers, theses- rapid service. \$1.50/pg double spaced. Atwater/de Maisonneuve. 935-9528.

SERVICES OFFERED

Market consultant—medical & biotechnology products. Patent & market analyses, targeted marketing. \$investment\$, confidential, experienced 488-5551.

FOR SALE

Volkswagen 412 station wagon '73. All original. 57,000 miles. No winters. Perfect condition. \$4,000. 389-7270.

RIDES & TICKETS

Concert/Hockey Tickets
Reserved seats available for Canadiens games. Also Black Crowes, Neil Young & Tragically Hip. Delivery service. 766-0298 Joe.

LOST & FOUND

Lost a bag with running shoes, T-shirt and leggings (black), during open house Friday 20th of September. Marie-Louise 278-5769.

PERSONAL

Experienced, licensed Dianetics® auditor. Effective for losses, separations, broken hearts and getting your mind and soul back in tune. Free interview and information. I'm often in session so you may have to leave a message. Darrell 522-3473.

Gay-American Male seeks marriage to Canadian female. Benjamin Moore 18 Elm #4 Plattsburgh NY 12901 U.S.A.

LESSONS / COURSES

Come and practice your French with francophones. Bilingual club Half and Half Tel. 465-9128

LSAT-MCAT-GMAT-GRE:
Intensive 20 hour weekend seminars. Proven test-taking strategies. Comprehensive seminar packages for only \$225. Oxford Seminars 1-800-269-6719.

NOTICES

The McGill Daycare Centers: Have spaces available immediately. For children aged two, three and four years old (as of September 1, 1996). Please contact us at 398-6943.

FRIEDMAN & FRIEDMAN
Chartered Accountants - Comptables agréés



8000 Decarie Blvd., Suite 500, Montréal, Québec H4P 2S4
Tél.: (514) 731-7901 Fax: (514) 731-2923

ATTENTION

Étudiant-es diplômé-es*

**à temps plein et session supplémentaire*

À partir de septembre 1996, vous avez droit à un régime plus complet d'assurance santé et d'assurance dentaire.

Les avantages comprennent:

- ☐ une couverture à 100% des frais de visite et de nettoyage dentaire
- ☐ une couverture à 80% des frais de médicaments prescrits
- ☐ et plus encore!

Plusieurs choix de participations:

- ☐ étudiant-es à temps partiel
- ☐ couverture pour couples ou familles

Choix de non-participation:

- ☐ vous pouvez vous retirer jusqu'au 7 octobre 1996.

Pour plus d'informations:



Maison Thomson
3650 rue McTavish

Tél.: (514) 398-3756
Fax: (514) 398-1862
E-mail: F3GS@musicb.McGill.ca

The Friends of the Library, McGill University
presents The Hugh MacLennan Memorial Lecture

Susan Swan

"The Writer and Pop Culture—or Why I'd Like to Have a Bestseller but Don't Want to Write One"

Thursday, October 3, 1996 at 8:00 p.m.
Faculty of Law, Moot Court
3644 Peel Street

Information: 398-4677

All Welcome

COIFFEURS

ELLE LaCité LUI

STUDENT DISCOUNTS
WITH THIS AD

Sunglitz Highlights
products by:

PAUL MITCHELL • SEBASTIAN

• 2 hours free parking •
APPOINTMENTS 844-9434

Galleries du Parc • 3575 Parc Ave.

\$2 OFF

\$2 OFF

McGill Work Study Program

The Student Aid Office is pleased to announce the continuation of the Work Study Program for the 1996-97 academic year! In addition to our regular funding, the Science Undergraduate Society has continued their contribution to the Work Study Program to create positions in the Faculty of Science for science students.

WHAT IS WORK STUDY?

It is a program that provides part-time on-campus employment for full-time degree students who demonstrate financial need. Eligible employers will benefit from subsidized labour costs when work study students are hired.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Work Study student applications and brochures are available at the Student Aid office on both campuses. Applications must be returned to the Student Aid office by: **October 11, 1996.**

OFFICE OF STUDENT AID & INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISER
Powell Building, 3637 Peel St., Room 200

ATTENTION

Graduate Students*

**full time and additional session*

As of September 1996 you have an extended health and dental plan.

Benefits include:

- ☐ 100% coverage of dental check-ups and cleaning.
- ☐ 80% coverage of prescription drugs
- ☐ plus much more!

Opt-in Options:

- ☐ Part-time students
- ☐ Couple or family coverage

Opt-out Option:

- ☐ Deadline is October 7, 1996.

For pamphlets and additional information:



Thomson House
3650 McTavish

Tél.: (514) 398-3756
Fax: (514) 398-1862
E-mail: F3GS@musicb.McGill.ca

October 3—October 9, 1996

The McGill Daily Culture

the way to go

Students
**SAVE
40%**

On any VIA rail economy seat,
anywhere, any time.

It's easier than ever.

No hassles, no more
advance purchase
requirements, no more
blackout periods, no
more sold out seats.
Any full-time student
with an Inter-
national Student
Identity Card (ISIC)
can save 40% with
VIA Rail. No need to wait,
take a look at the train today!



the way to save



**VOYAGES CAMPUS
TRAVEL CUTS**

Voyages Campus
3480 rue McTavish,
McGill University,
308-0647



VIA Rail
805, rue de la
Gauchetière
080-2626

MACES

McGill Association of Continuing Education Students

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Friday, October 11, 1996, 6:00 PM

3437 Peel St., Lounge
398-4974

All McGill Continuing
Education students are
invited to attend

(please present your McGill ID card at the door)

**Now!!
Part-Time
Sales Positions
Men & Women**

A. Gold & Sons

We require ambitious,
bilingual, fashion-oriented
men and women as sales
associates for our retail cloth-
ing stores.

Earn generous commis-
sions. No experience neces-
sary. We will train you.

Positions available Thurs-
day and Friday evenings, and
Saturdays and Sundays in 9
locations across Greater
Montreal.

Call Colette Asselin
(514) 288-4653

Fax (514) 288-6804

Or send resumé to:

A. Gold & Sons

Att: Colette Asselin
2050 Bleury, Suite 100
Montreal, Que. H3A 2J5

**WELCOME TO THE AGE
OF AQUARIUS**

3 LECTURES

SUNDAY OCTOBER 6, 1996

HÔTEL MARITIME

1155 Guy St. (corner René-Lévesque) Montreal Room B

10:00 a.m. TWIN FLAMES / SOULMATES

1:30 p.m. SEVEN ARCHANGELS

3:30 p.m. KARMA AND PROPHECIES

ADMISSION: \$25 for 3 lectures \$ 10 for 1 lecture
INFORMATION: 514-276-6812

The Summit Lighthouse



WHAT?

You haven't
booked your
flights for
Christmas yet?

Hurry into VOYAGES CAMPUS, book
before October 7th for the Christmas
season and get one free change of date
on your student class airfare!

**RETURN STUDENT FARES FROM
MONTREAL**

	Departures 09Sep-14Dec From	Departures 15Dec-09Jan From
VANCOUVER	\$457	\$530
VICTORIA	\$518	\$567
EDMONTON / CALGARY	\$420	\$530
REGINA / SASKATOON	\$457	\$518
TORONTO	\$189	\$237
WINNIPEG	\$371	\$445
HALIFAX	\$310	\$371
MONCTON	\$310	\$359
ST-JOHN'S (NFLD)	\$359	\$396

Taxes included. Certain conditions apply.
Fares available to other Canadian cities- Check us out!

VOYAGES CAMPUS

3480 McTavish (Union Bldg.)

398-0647

FREE TICKETS FOR DAILY READERS!
COME TO SHATNER B-07 FOR J. RICHMAN OR RAWLINS
CROSS TIX. 1ST COME, 1ST SERVED. QUANTITIES LIMITED!

**SURRENDER TO
JONATHAN
RICHMAN
AND, PREPARE TO
BE BOARDED BY
MACK
MACKENZIE**
PREVIEWING HIS NEW ALBUM
WED. OCT. 9TH CLUB SODA 8:30PM
TICKETS \$12.50 (+tx/serv) at CLUB SODA (info: 270-7848) and ADMISSION. Res: 790-1245

CELTIC ROCK FROM THE MARITIMES
Rawlins-Cross
WED. OCT 16TH • 8:30PM • CLUB SODA
TICKETS \$8.50 (+tx/serv) at CLUB SODA (info: 270-7848) and ADMISSION. Res: 790-1245

OPTOMETRIST

- Eyes Examined
- Eye Glasses (2 for 1)
- Contact Lenses (from \$89)
- Student Discount

Dr. David Kwavnick, O.D.
1535 Sherbrooke St. W.
(corner Guy)
933-8700

CENTRE MEDICAL
du Collège

PLACE ALEXIS NIHON, WESTMOUNT
1500 Atwater, Maisonneuve Entrance

ATWATER METRO

Six days a week with or without
appointment

Medical Check-up
Family Planning & Contraceptives

Prevention & S.T.D.'s Tests
Diagnostic Tests

Immediate Tests

Pregnancy

Urine

Rapid Strep

Sugar

Cholesterol

Vaccinations & Flu Shot
Specialists Consultations
Psychologists
Dietitians

Tel: (514) 937-9070